

Probate cases on this calendar are currently under review by the probate examiners. Review of some probate cases may not be completed and therefore have not been posted.

If your probate case has not been posted please check back again later.

Thank you for your patience.

(1) Second Account Current and Report of Conservator and (2) Petition for Allowance of Compensation to Conservator and Attorney [Prob. C. 2620; 2623; 2942]

Age: 97 years			PUBLIC GUARDIAN, Conservator, is	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			petitioner.	, ,
			'	
			Account period: 7/1/10 – 6/30/12	
Cont. from			Accounting - <b>\$2,627,177.69</b>	
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Beginning POH - \$2,583,184.38 Ending POH - \$2,362,575.27	
1	Verified			
	Inventory		(\$230,482.36 is cash)	
	PTC		Conservator - <b>\$3,953.68</b> (25.43	
	Not.Cred.		Deputy hours @ \$96/hr and 19.90 Staff	
	Notice of		hours @ \$76/hr)	
✓	Hrg		- 1, ,	
1	Aff.Mail	W/	Attorney - <b>\$2,500.00</b> (per	
	Aff.Pub.		Local Rule)	
✓	Sp.Ntc.	W/	Bond fee - \$1, <b>544.14</b> (o.k.)	
	Pers.Serv.			
	Conf.		Petitioner prays for an Order:	
	Screen		Approving, allowing and settling	
	Letters		the second account.	
	Duties/Supp		<ol><li>Authorizing the conservator and attorney fees and commissions</li></ol>	
	Objections		3. Payment of the bond fee	
	Video			
	Receipt			
	CI Report			
	9202		Court Investigator Jennifer Young's	
✓	Order		Report filed on 9/14/12.	
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 9/28/12
	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 2 - Ohanesian

Atty

Barrus, John E. (for Walter G. Jones – Executor – Petitioner)

(1) Petition for Final Distribution on Waiver of Accounting and (2) for Allowance of Fees [Prob. C. 11600; 10830]

DOD: 2-24-09 WALTER G. JONES, Executor with Full IAEA without NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ **COMMENTS:** bond, is Petitioner. Accounting is waived. Minute Order 9-12-12: The Court is advised that they 1&A: \$240,000.00 (residence) are still waiting on Bank of Cont. from 091212 POH: \$ 1,500.00 (cash in attorney trust account) America. Aff.Sub.Wit. Executor (Statutory): Waived As of 9-27-12, nothing Verified Attorney (Statutory): \$6,550.00 further has been filed. Inventory Costs: \$435.00 (filing) PTC Petitioner states that except for the funds held in the **Note:** As sole heir pursuant Not.Cred. attorney trust account, there are no remaining assets of to Decedent's will, Notice of the estate. Petitioner waived Hrg accounting; however, Petitioner states he obtained a line of credit for about under Probate Code Aff.Mail W \$65,000.00 against the residence and took a draw §10954(c)(2), a creditor Aff.Pub. against the line of credit for about \$65,000.00, less whose interest has not Sp.Ntc. \$6,650.00 in loan processing and appraisal fees, a loan been satisfied may petition broker fee of \$6,000.00, a document preparation fee for account. Pers.Serv. of \$750.00, and prepaid interest in the amount of Conf. The Bank of America \$13,750.00, resulting in a net distribution to Petitioner of Screen Creditor's Claim was about \$37,850.00. Except for \$3,062.00 used for Letters allowed, but is not paid. residence maintenance expenses, Petitioner advises Duties/Supp the Court that he used the remaining portion of the Examiner notes that Notice draw for his personal living expense, including a new **Objections** of Hearina was mailed to business venture, against the advice of his counsel. Video the creditor on 8-10-12. Receipt Nothing has been filed. Petitioner subsequently sold the real property, at which time all amounts owed on the property, including the CI Report SEE PAGE 2 line of credit, were paid. Petitioner received \$19,887.02 9202 from the sale, and again, contrary to the advice of his Order counsel, used the proceeds to pay for his own medical Reviewed by: skc Aff. Posting expenses. Petitioner states his only income is approx. **Reviewed on:** 9-27-12 Status Rpt \$880.00/month from Social Security, and prior to the **UCCJEA** sale, Petitioner had suffered a serious stroke. Petitioner **Updates:** apologizes to the Court and asks the Court's Recommendation: Citation forgiveness for his lapse in judgment in using estate FTB Notice File 4 - Jones funds to pay his own expenses. Petitioner states that the \$1,500.00 remaining in the attorney trust account will be used toward attorney fees and costs, and that he will assume personal responsibility for payment of the remainder of the attorney fees and the creditor's claim of Bank of America (\$1,965.21) by assigning liens on a future inheritance (attached). **Petitioner prays for an Order** confirming and approving his acts and proceedings, ordering his personal liability to pay the creditor's claim and the balance of the attorney fees in accordance with the "Priority Assignment of Beneficial Interest in Estate of Dorothy Jones Ripperdan" and "Secondary Assignment," and distribution of property now now known or discovered to Petitioner.

## 4 Charlene G. Jones (Estate)

Case No. 09CEPR00579

**Declaration of Attorney Barrus filed 9-11-12 states** the executor did not advise him that he was borrowing the money to fund a business. He advised his client that the funds could only be used for estate purposes and could not be distributed without court approval. The executor had no money to pay the operating expenses of the residence such as property taxes, utilities, repair and maintenance, and to pay creditors.

Mr. Barrus is informed by the law firm handling the estate of Dorothy Jones Ripperdan that the estate is not subject to probate; rather, a Petition to Determine Succession to Real Property. Copies of the Primary and Secondary Assignments of Beneficial Interest in the estate have been delivered to the firm handling the matter. In addition, the executor executed and filed an Assumption of Personal Liability for the balance of attorney fees and creditor's claim. The \$1,500 will be used to pay the filing fee and a portion of the attorney's statutory fee which are expenses of administration and have priority over payment of unsecured creditor's claims.

For an extended period, the executor did not respond to inquiries from his office. They had prepared a Petition for Final Distribution that was signed on 9-24-10; however, no provision had been made for payment of fees or creditor's claim. The attorney offered to take a note secured by a deed. Subsequently, the residence fell into foreclosure and it was anticipated that it would be lost. However, in August 2011, Mr. Barrus received word from Brian Gurule, a friend of the executor's, that there was a potential sale. Mr. Barrus advised Brian that there were estate expenses that would need to be paid from sale proceeds.

The sale closed on 9-9-11 without Attorney Barrus' knowledge. He had not had contact with the executor since 9-24-10, and was not contacted by the executor or the title company. On 12-15-11, he attempted to call the executor, but the phone number was no longer in service. He contacted Brian, who informed him of the sale. Brian then arranged with the executor to send \$1,500.00 immediately and was hopeful to make regular payments on the balance.

In July 2012, Mr. Barrus received a call from a local law firm to inform the executor that he is an heir of his great-aunt's estate that was subject to a Petition to Determine Succession to Real Property. Mr. Barrus attempted to contact the executor via the realtor who sold this real property, and was able to leave several voice messages. Mr. Barrus was aware that the executor had had a stroke, but did not know the nature of his incapacity. The office revised the Petition for Final Distribution and Mr. Barrus personally drove to the executor's new home for signatures. He advised him that he had violated his duties as executor and proposed that he assume personal liability for payment of the creditor's claim and fees, and also assign his interest in the estate. He agreed.

Contrary to the examiner's assertion, Mr. Barrus has done everything he could to ensure this matter timely closed. He did not control the executor or the sale of the residence. The delay was due, in part, to the sale of the residence, and in part because the executor failed to keep in contact with Mr. Barrus. In Mr. Barrus' opinion, the executor knew he had done something wrong and did not want to deal with it. The delay did, however, allow the residence to be sold instead of lost in foreclosure, and was, in that sense, in the best interest of the estate. The estate would not be ready for this hearing but for Mr. Barrus' efforts. As soon as the material facts were known, this petition was filed. Mr. Barrus did all he could in as timely a manner as possible given the circumstances.

**SEE ADDITIONAL PAGE** 

## **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:**

- 1. Petitioner requests that the Court approve his acts and proceedings as Executor including:
  - borrowing against and encumbering the real property of the estate without Court authorization, which is a violation of Probate Code §9800,
  - using the funds received for purposes other than the purposes allowed by Probate Code §9800 (also a violation), including the majority for Petitioner's personal use ("a new business venture").
  - This constitutes an unauthorized preliminary distribution in violation of Probate Code §11621, which states that the Court may authorize preliminary distribution if it appears that it may be made without loss to creditors or injury to the estate.
  - Petitioner then sold the real property and used the remainder of the funds for personal use, which is further unauthorized preliminary distribution in violation of Probate Code §11621.
  - Although Petitioner is the sole heir, his duty is first to the estate, including administration and payment of creditors. It appears that Petitioner's actions have resulted in an insolvent estate and an unpaid creditor.
  - The Court may require that any language approving these acts be stricken from the final order.
- 2. Petitioner requests to assume personal liability for payment of the creditor's claim and executed "Priority" and "Secondary Assignments of Beneficial Interest in Estate of Dorothy Jones Ripperdan," wherein he assigns his beneficial interest as an heir of his deceased great-aunt for payment of the balance of the attorney fees and Bank of America Creditor's Claim.
  - Petitioner explains that he was recently advised that he is an heir of this estate, which "<u>may</u>" be enough to pay the Creditor's Claim and the remainder of the statutory attorney fees, but that the principal asset of the estate is held by the California Controller's office and will "probably not be paid to him any time soon."

Attorney Barrus' declaration indicates that the estate is not being probated, but is subject to a Petition to Determine Succession.

The Court may require clarification and authority for assumption and/or reliance on assignment for payment of the creditor's claim.

Kruthers, Heather H (for Petitioner/Administrator Public Administrator)

Petition for an Order Approving Extraordinary Commissions for the Public Administrator [Prob. C. 7666]

DOD: 7/14/2009			PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR/ADMINISTRATOR	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			of the Estate is petitioner.	
Cont. from			Petitioner states he was appointed as Administrator of the estate under Probate Code 7660.	
<b>√</b>	Aff.Sub.Wit. Verified		In the course of the administration of the estate the Public Administrator's office has	
	Inventory PTC		performed extraordinary services	
	Not.Cred.		regarding the sale of the Decedent's real property. Pursuant to Local Rule 7.18(B)(1)	
✓	Notice of Hrg		the reasonable fee for such services is	
✓	Aff.Mail	W/	\$1,000.00.	
	Aff.Pub.		In addition, petitioner filed the First and	
✓	Sp.Ntc.	W/	Final Fiduciary tax return for this estate.  The reasonable value of such services is	
	Pers.Serv.		\$248.00.	
	Conf. Screen		Therefore, Petitioner prays for an Order	
	Letters		that:	
	Duties/Supp			
	Objections		The Court authorize payment to the	
	Video Receipt		Fresno County Public Administrator in the sum of \$1,248.00 as reasonable	
	CI Report		compensation for extraordinary services	
	9202		to the estate.	
✓	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
-	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 9/28/12
$\parallel$	UCCJEA Citation			Updates: Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 5 - Crider

Knapp, Bonnie J (for Petitioner/Special Administrator Eric Schloen)

Petition for Termination of Further Proceedings and Discharge of the Personal Representative [Prob. C. 12251; Gov. C. 70657(a)(1)]

DOD: 10/20/11 **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS: ERIC SCHLOEN**, petitioner, was appointed Special Administrator without bond. Letters will expire 5/13/13. Cont. from Aff.Sub.Wit. Petitioner was appointed Verified Special Administrator for the Inventory limited purpose of obtaining **PTC** Medi-Cal benefits for the Not.Cred. decedent to settle medical bills Notice of incurred by decedent prior to his Hrg death. Petitioner is an agent of W/ Aff.Mail hospital where decedent died. Aff.Pub. Sp.Ntc. 1 & A waived per Pers.Serv. order appointing special Conf. administrator. Screen **Letters Petitioner states** he performed **Duties/Supp** all duties necessary as special **Objections Video** administrator as he obtained Receipt health benefits for the **CI Report** decedent, the estate has no 9202 assets and there is no longer a Order need for a special administrator. Aff. Posting Reviewed by: KT **Status Rpt** Reviewed on: 9/28/12 Petitioner Prays for an Order: **UCCJEA Updates:** 1) Terminating the Recommendation: SUBMITTED Citation administration of the estate **FTB Notice** File 7 - West and discharging the Special Administrator.

Skinner, Jennifer Hamilton (of Sacramento, CA for Petitioner Kathryn Lopez)

Petition for Letters of Administration; Authorization to Administer Under IAEA (Prob. C. 8002, 10450)

DOD: 7/17/12	KATHRYN LOPEZ, daughter, is	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	petitioner and requests	
	appointment as Administrator	
	without bond.	Need Affidavit of Publication.
Cont. from 083012		
Aff.Sub.Wit.	Full IAEA - ?	
√ Verified		<b>Note:</b> If the petition is granted,
Inventory	Decedent died Intestate.	status hearings will be set for the
PTC	Decederii died ii iiesidie.	filing as follows:
Not.Cred.	Residence: Del Rey	
Notice of	Publication: <b>NEED</b>	Friday, November 2, 2012 at
Hrg	TODICATION. NELD	9:00 a.m. in Department 303,
✓ Aff.Mail W/		for the filing of the bond.
Aff.Pub. X	Estimated value of the estate:	• Friday, March 8, 2013 at 9:00
Sp.Ntc.	Personal property - \$50,000.00	a.m. in Department 303, for
Pers.Serv.	<u>Real property</u> - \$100,000.00	the filing of the inventory and
Conf.	Total - \$150,000.00	appraisal.
Screen		Friday, December 6, 2013 at
✓ Letters	Probate Referee: RICK SMITH	9:00 a.m. in Department 303,
✓ Duties/Supp		for the filing of the first
Objections		account or petition for final distribution.
Video		
Receipt		Pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 if the
CI Report		required documents are filed 10
9202		days prior the date set the status
✓ Order		hearing will come off calendar
		and no appearance will be
		required.
Aff. Posting		Reviewed by: KT
Status Rpt		Reviewed by: K1  Reviewed on: 9/28/2012
UCCJEA		Updates:
Citation		Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 8 - Lopez
		8

Atty

Hemb, Richard E (for Petitioner Adrianne Wallace)

Petition to Determine Succession to Real Property (Prob. C. 13151)

	Petition to Determine Succession to Real Property (Prop. C. 13151)				
DOD: 12/18/1988		3	ADRIANNE WALLACE,	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
			daughter, is petitioner.	#2 of the Petition states the     decedent's name is "Estate of	
			40 days since DOD.	Emma Miller."	
Co	nt. from		,		
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		No other proceedings.	2. #11 of the Petition does not	
✓	Verified			include the decedent's interest in the property as required.	
	Inventory		Decedent died intestate.	me property darregolied.	
	PTC		I & A - \$85,000.00		
	Not.Cred.		400,000.00		
✓	Notice of Hrg		Petitioner requests Court		
<b>√</b>	Aff.Mail	W/	determination that		
	Aff.Pub.		Decedent's interest in real		
	Sp.Ntc.		property located in Fresno		
	Pers.Serv.		County passes to her pursuant		
	Conf.		to intestate succession.		
	Screen				
	Letters				
	Duties/Supp				
	Objections				
	Video Receipt				
	Cl Report				
	9202				
1	Order				
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT	
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 9/28/12	
	UCCJEA			Updates:	
	Citation			Recommendation:	
	FTB Notice			File 9 - Miller	

Helon, Marvin T (for Petitioner Wilma R. Ellis-Johnson)

Petition for Letters of Administration; Authorization to Administer Under IAEA (Prob. C. 8002, 10450

DOD: 7/1/12			WILMA R. ELLIS-JOHNSON,	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			surviving spouse is petitioner	
			and requests appointment as	
			Administrator of the Estate	
Cont. from			without bond.	
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		willioor borid.	
✓	Verified		All heirs waive bond.	
	Inventory			
	PTC		Full IAEA – o.k.	
	Not.Cred.			
	Notice of Hrg		Decedent died intestate.	
✓	Aff.Mail	W/	Residence: Fresno	
✓	Aff.Pub.		Publication: Fresno Business	
	Sp.Ntc.		Journal.	
	Pers.Serv.			
	Conf.			
	Screen		Estimated value of the estate:	
✓	Letters			
✓	Duties/Supp		Personal property         -         \$ 20,000.00           Real property         -         \$468,000.00	
	Objections		Total - \$488,000.00	
	Video		·	
	Receipt			
	CI Report		Probate Referee: RICK SMITH	
	9202		Trobate Referee. Riok offilli	
✓	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 10/3/12
	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation: SUBMITTED
	FTB Notice			File 10 - Johnson